



THROUGH THE YEAR WITH JESUS!

Eleanor Zuercher

A once-a-month children's programme for small churches

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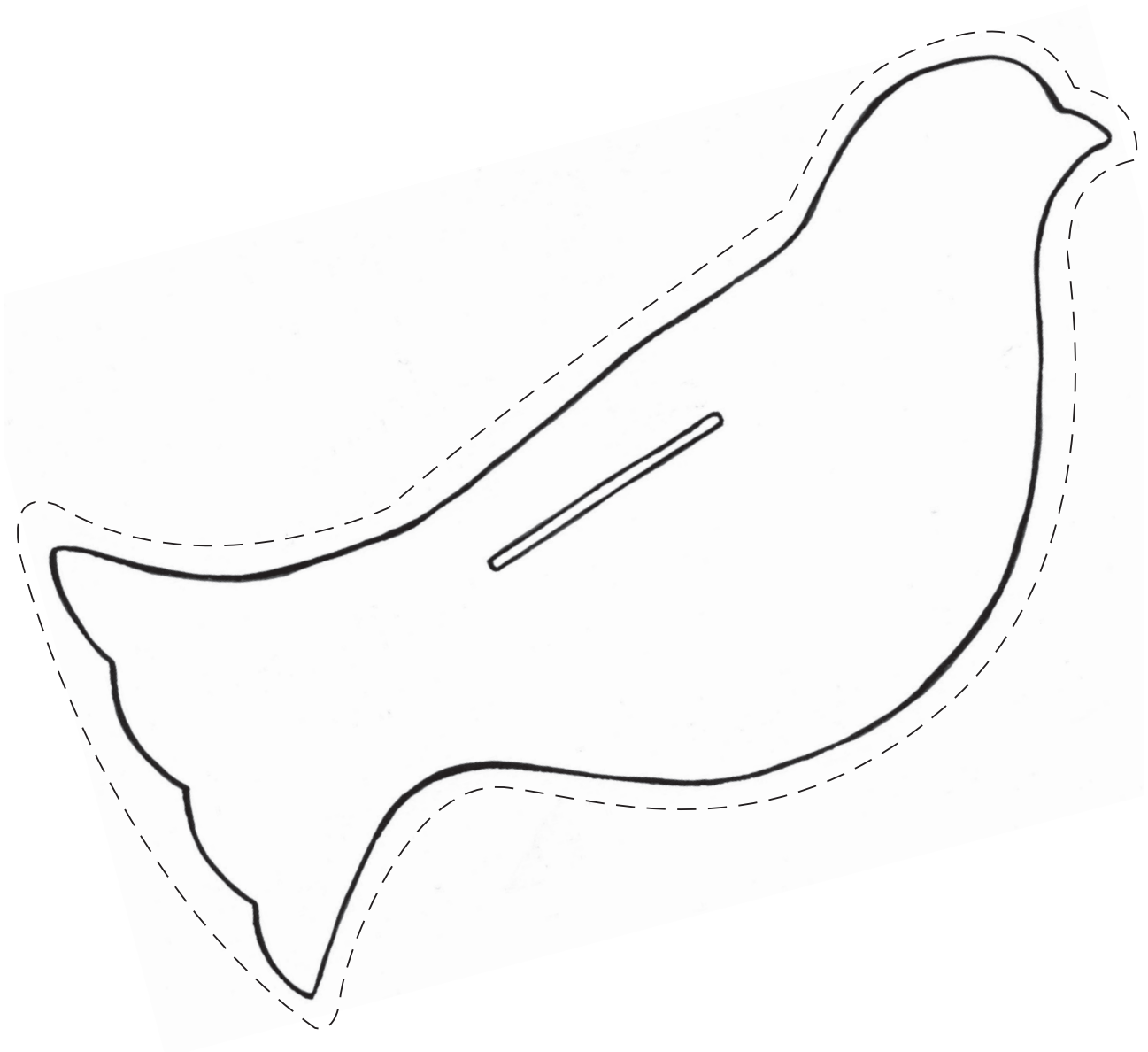


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DOVE MOBILES





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STAINED-GLASS WINDOW CANDLES



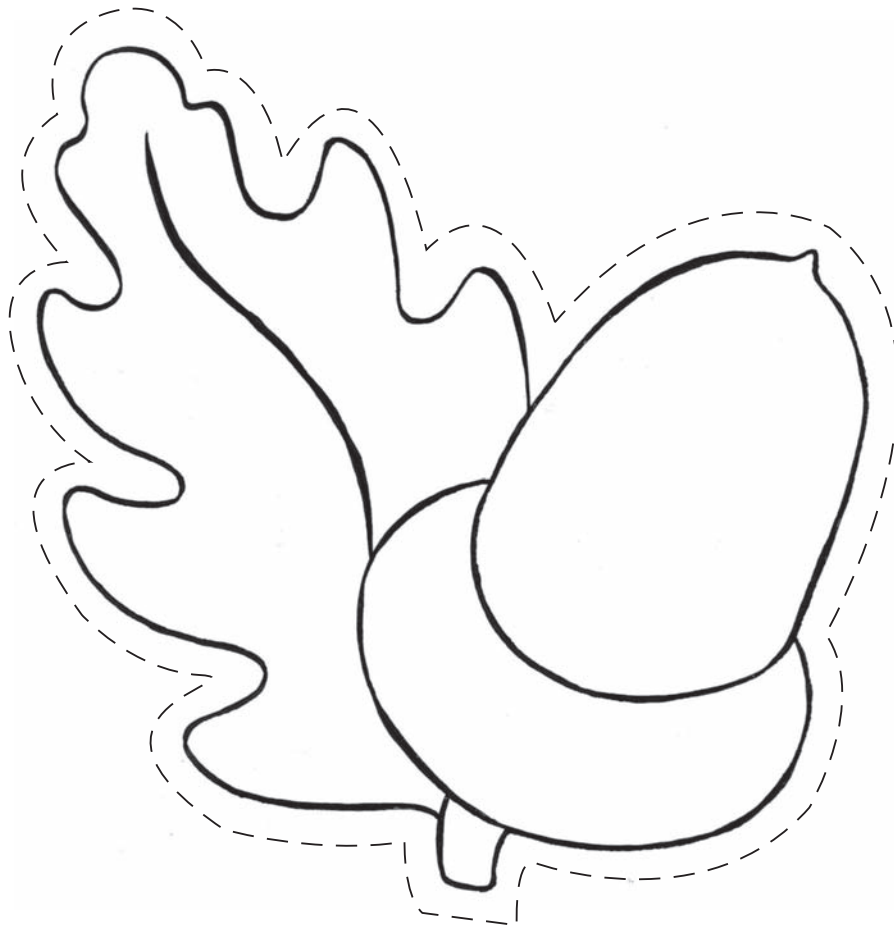


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ACORN BADGES



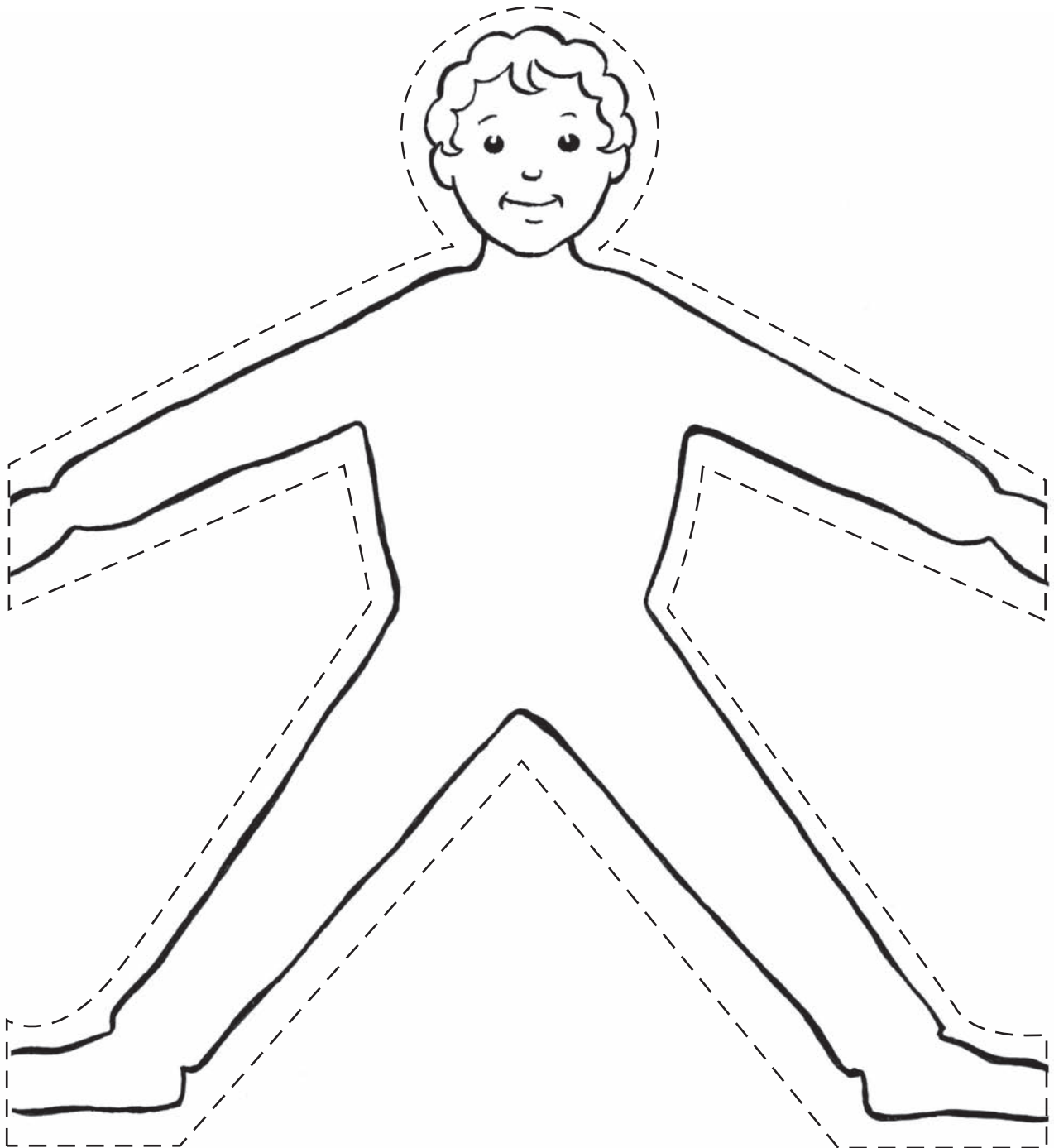


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PAPER CHAIN PEOPLE



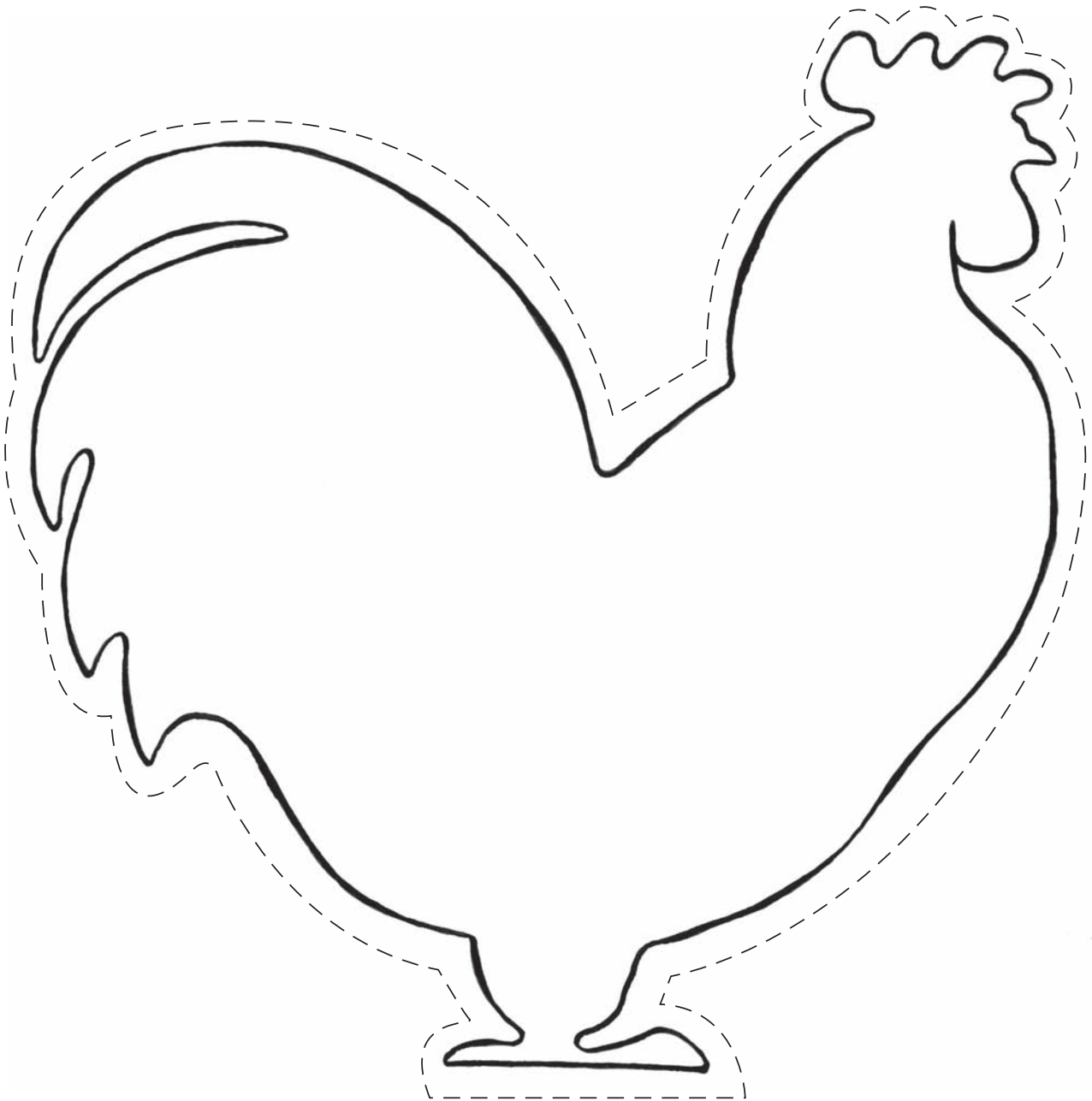


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COCKEREL FEATHER COLLAGE



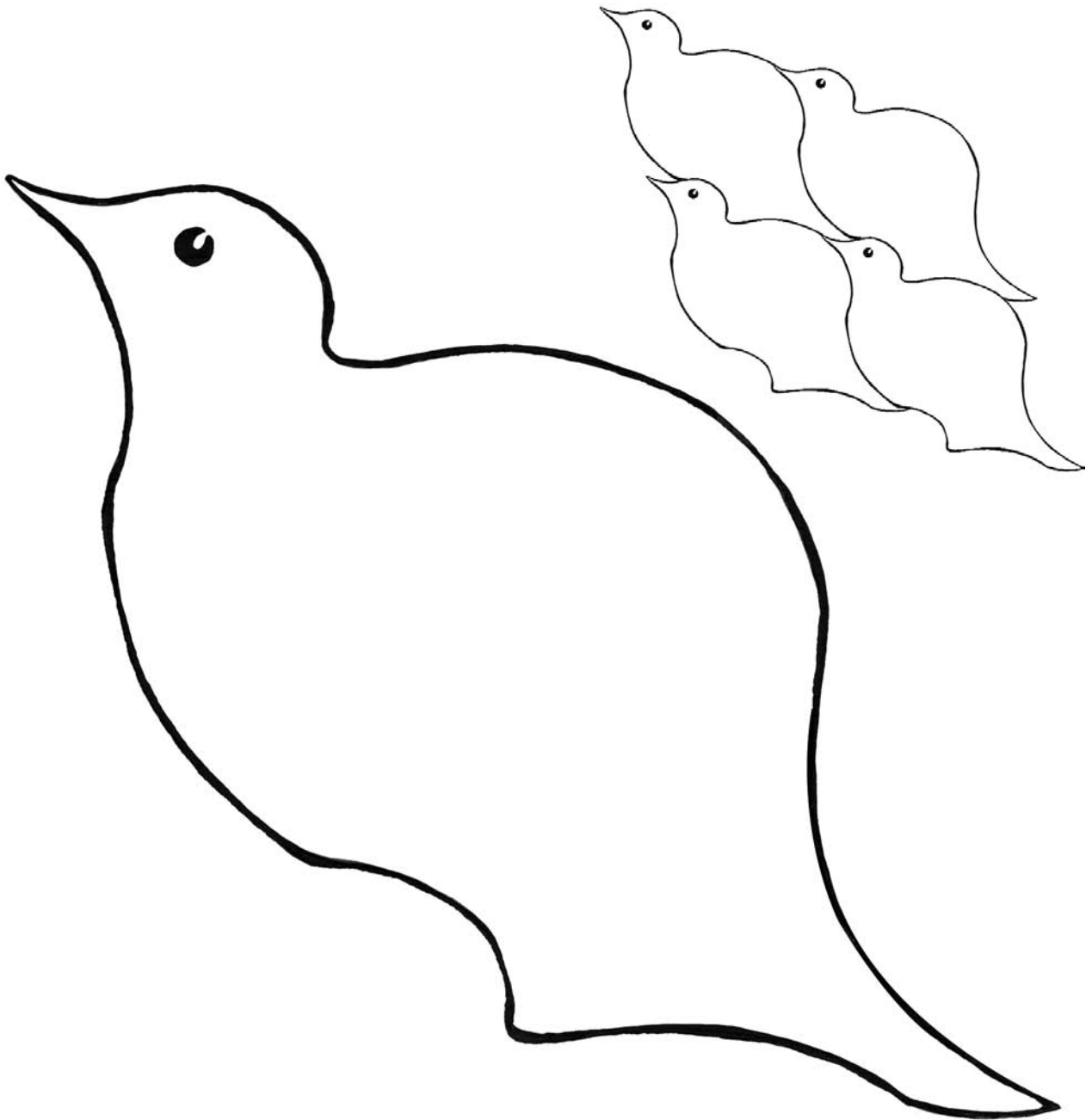


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TESSELLATING BIRDS



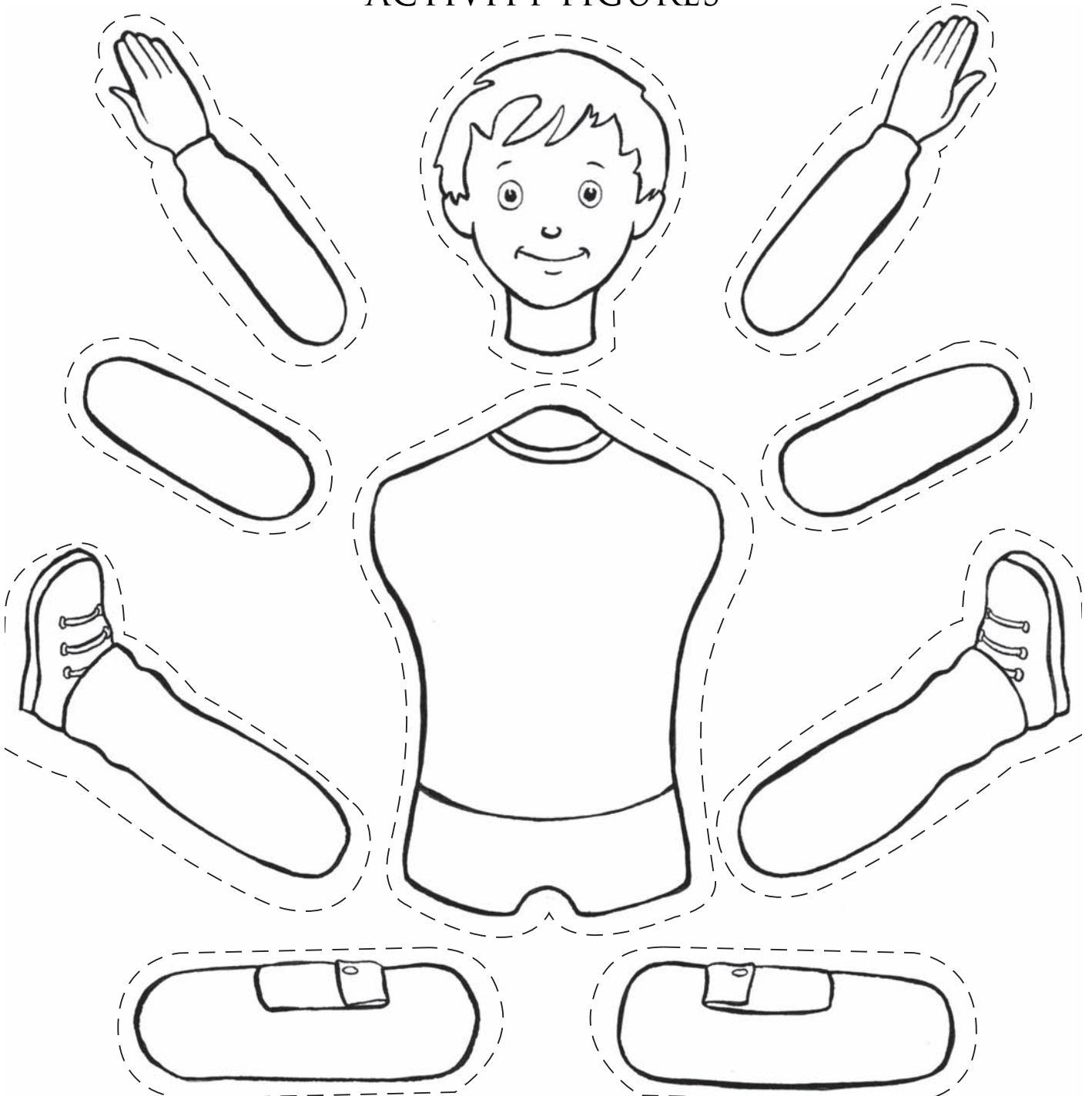


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ACTIVITY FIGURES





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'I AM' DISPLAY: WORLD STENCIL



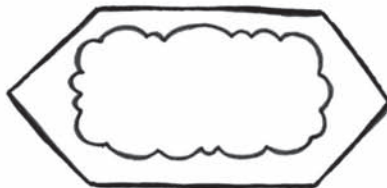
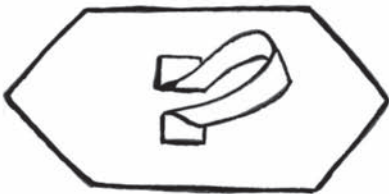
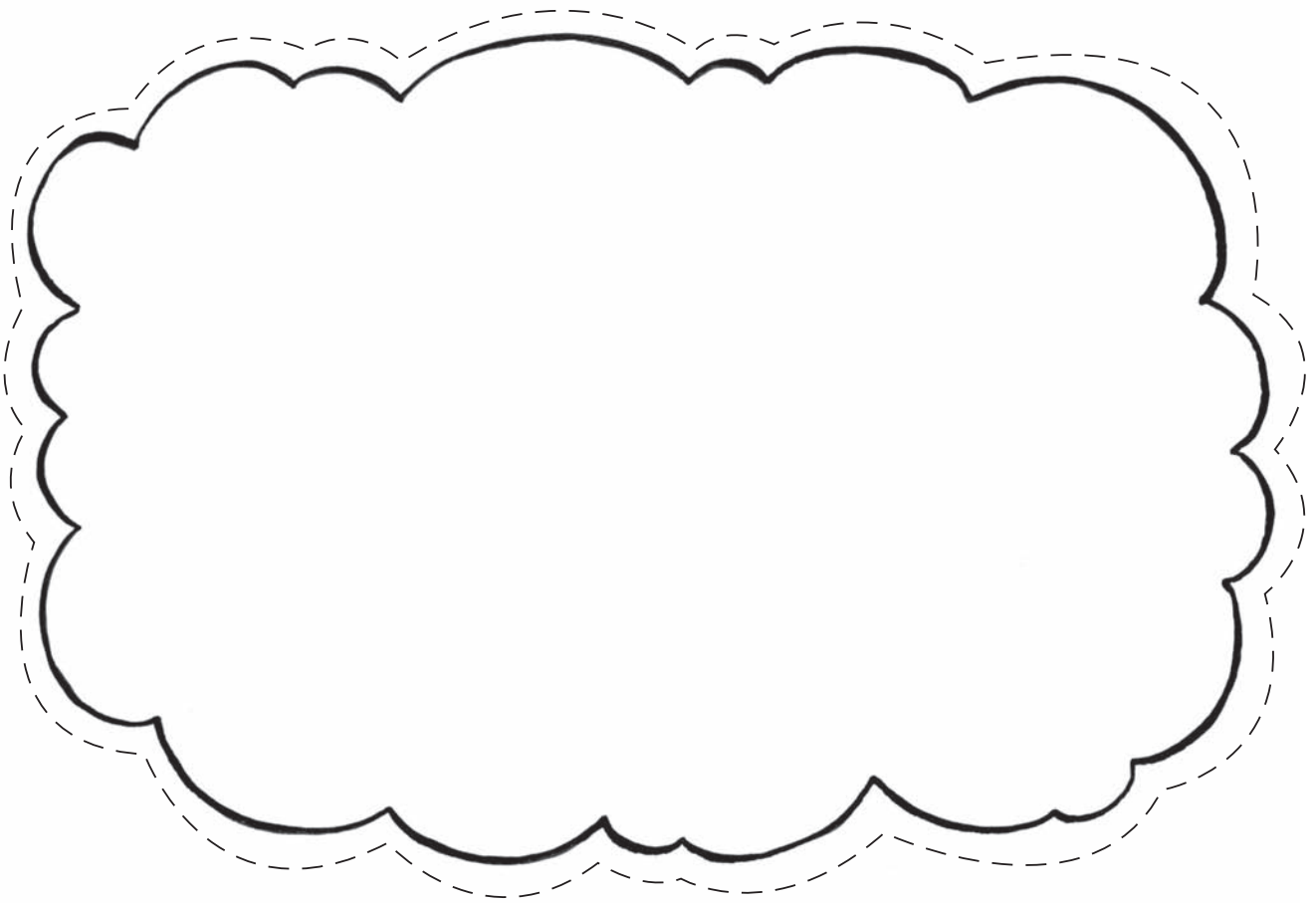


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SHEEP FRIEZE



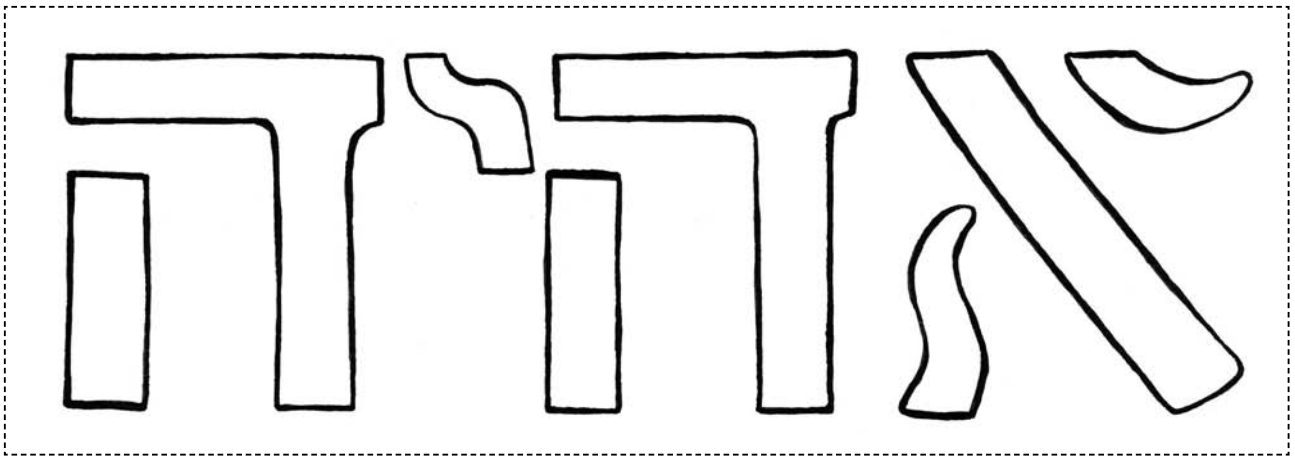


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'I AM' DISPLAY: HEBREW LETTERS



PROGRAMME PLANS FOR BAPTISM

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Visual storytelling	Visual materials, such as a blue cloth, bread and stone, a scroll, a toy snake and a model or picture of a church building
15 minutes	Painting shells	Scallop shells; acrylic paint; brushes; water
15 minutes	Marbling	Paper; tray of water; marbling ink
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Jesus' baptism	Child's storytelling Bible, or contemporary version of the Bible
15 minutes	Making doves for small mobile	Dove cut-outs; paper for wings; pens to decorate; strong cotton thread; short garden stick
15 minutes	Stained-glass window candles	Black card; cellophane or tissue paper; glue sticks, scissors
10 minutes	Water carrying races	Water; containers
10 minutes	Bubble prayers	Bubble mixture and blowers

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Visual storytelling	Visual materials, such as a blue cloth, bread and stone, a scroll, a toy snake and a model or picture of a church building
10 minutes	Painting shells	Scallop shells; acrylic paint; brushes; water
15 minutes	Marbling	Paper; tray of water; marbling inks
15 minutes	Oil pastel pictures	Pastels; paper
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Jesus' baptism	Child's storytelling Bible, or contemporary version of the Bible
20 minutes	Illuminated names	Name book to look up meanings of names; paint; ink and brushes, or pens; paper
10 minutes	Praying with water	Font or glass bowl; water

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR FAITH

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: centurion's servant	—
20 minutes	Acorn triptych	Prepared hanging or card; paint; sponges; stencils; PVA glue; fabric scraps; wool
10 minutes	Watch it grow!	Mustard and cress seeds; water; cotton wool or kitchen paper; containers; pens
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Paper chain people	Paper such as newspaper or tissue paper for the chain; scissors; person template
15 minutes	Faith boxes	Small boxes with lids; PVA glue; items to decorate, such as glitter, sequins, beads, and so on; small pieces of paper; pens
15 minutes	Take a pencil for a walk	A3 paper; pencils
10 minutes	Acorn badges	Thick card acorn shapes; safety pins; sticky tape; pipe cleaners; light-coloured wool; paint; sponges; pens
10 minutes	Prayer: write-your-own litany	—

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: Peter's denial and Jesus' response	—
20 minutes	Peter shields	Prepared cardboard shield shapes; a copy of a St Peter's motif; pencils; paint; brushes; string or ribbon
15 minutes	Cockerel feather collage	Cockerel shapes cut from card; glue; feathers; googlie eyes or felt
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
15 minutes	Sheep-shaped biscuits	Sheep-shaped biscuit cutters; rolling pin; baking parchment; biscuit dough
20 minutes	Faith boxes	Small boxes with lids; PVA glue; items to decorate, such as glitter, sequins, beads and so on; small pieces of paper; pens
10 minutes	Breeze ball racing	Prepared circles of card; electric fan or a natural breeze; pens to write a message
10 minutes	Kenning prayers	—

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR PRAYER

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: the Lord's Prayer	—
15 minutes	Pathway prayers	Chalk; camera
15 minutes	Prayer phones	Sturdy, good-quality plastic cups; buttonhole thread; sticky tape; an implement for making holes, such as a pair of compasses; Plasticine
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
15 minutes	Prayer scrapbook	Good-quality scrapbook; Post-it notes; small pieces of paper
10 minutes	Ship ahoy	Copies of yacht racing flags for messaging; string
15 minutes	Colouring prayers	Prayer and colouring border; colouring equipment
10 minutes	Prayer whispers	—
10 minutes	Praying with objects	Objects to evoke prayers

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration and welcome	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: prayer poem	—
10 minutes	Pathway prayers	Chalk; camera
20 minutes	Everyday prayers	Tape recording of sounds; tape recorder or other media for recording and playing back sound; pens; paper
15 minutes	Semaphore prayers	List of semaphore signals
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
15 minutes	Touch prayers	List of ideas for messages
10 minutes	Emails to God	E-shaped pieces of paper; pens
10 minutes	The Lord's Prayer with actions	—
10 minutes	Walk the Lord's prayer	—

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR MIRACLES

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: feeding of the 5000	—
15 minutes	Feeding of the 5000 display	A large piece of paper; brightly coloured finger paint or poster paint, distributed in small trays; hand washing equipment
10 minutes	Chromatography	Filter papers; water; pipette; pens
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Miracles / not miracles	List of situations
10 minutes	Story: storm on the lake	—
15 minutes	Blow painting	Drinking straws; runny poster paint in stormy colours; spoons; pens or more solid paint; small brushes; sponges; good-quality thick paper (not too absorbent)
15 minutes	Spillage painting	Large sheets of good-quality paper; cold tea (without milk) or blackcurrant juice; plastic cups; drawing pencils
10 minutes	Story: wedding at Cana	—
5 minutes	Prayer	—

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Centurion's servant story	—
15 minutes	Chromatography	Filter papers; water; pipette; pens
15 minutes	Miracles / not miracles	List of situations
10 minutes	Centurion's servant prayer leading into BREAK	Fresh bread; a table; some plates; a bread machine (optional); a candle; matches or a candle lighter; water or sand as a precaution against fire; a candle extinguisher. Squash; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Story: the crippled man	—
20 minutes	Flat-roofed houses	Illustrations of flat-roofed houses; cardboard boxes; poster paint; paintbrushes; strips of medium-weight card; sticky tape; scissors
20 minutes	Wounds and bandages	Fake wounds, such as those used by first aiders (optional); bandages; a skilled first aider
10 minutes	Healing prayer	—

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR PARABLES

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: the lost sheep	—
10 minutes	Lost sheep	Cardboard tubes; cotton wool; glue; black felt or card cut in the shape of sheep faces and feet; googlie eyes
10 minutes	Lost and found	Pictures of the object you will be hunting (or objects themselves)
15 minutes	Parable plate faces	Whole paper plates; paints; brushes; some paper plates cut in half; sticky tape; short garden canes
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Story: the good Samaritan	—
15 minutes	Parable figures	Modelling equipment such as Plasticine, playdough or foil
10 minutes	Friendship strings	Fine cord; wool or embroidery thread; patience
10 minutes	Eye of the needle	A Bible; a darning needle; props that denote royalty, such as a crown, sceptre, orb, fake jewels, and so on
10 minutes	Friendship prayers	Writing and drawing materials

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: the two builders	—
10 minutes	Balancing act	A container for flour (such as a seed tray or sand box); a mound of dry flour; spoons; a coin
20 minutes	Flour construction	Plenty of flour; water; container (such as a seed tray or sand tray); materials for construction, such as lolly sticks, tape, card, matchboxes, and so on
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Story: the good Samaritan	—
10 minutes	What should I do?	—
20 minutes	Prepare drama	—
15 minutes	Write a parable	Paper; writing implements
5 minutes	Friendship prayers	Writing and drawing materials

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR BLESSINGS

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: Jesus' teaching about worry	—
10 minutes	Tessellating birds	Lots of tessellating bird shapes; felt-tipped pens or pencils in bright colours; pens for writing; a large piece of black card or board; PVA glue
15 minutes	Decorating flower pots	White emulsion paint; terracotta flower pots; acrylic paint; brushes; water
15 minutes	Garden collage	Stiff paper or thin card; PVA glue and spreaders; collage materials
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Planting wild flowers	Flowerpots; compost; a large seed tray; a little water; wild flower seeds
10 minutes	Door poster	Two large pieces of card; paper; drawing materials
10 minutes	Welcome cards	A4 card folded to make double doors; pens; pencils; wax crayons, and so on
10 minutes	Recipe for a good life	Large sheets of paper; pens
10 minutes	Praying with objects	—

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: Jesus' teaching on worry	—
15 minutes	Flower painting	Fresh flowers in an attractive vase; good-quality cartridge paper; pastels; watercolour pencils; some botanical art prints
10 minutes	Tessellating birds	Lots of tessellating bird shapes; felt-tipped pens or pencils in bright colours; pens; a large piece of black card or board; PVA glue
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Story: blessings	—
15 minutes	Blessing boxes	Small boxes with lids; glue; items to decorate the boxes, such as fake jewels, glitter, sequins, beads, and so on; small pieces of paper; pens
15 minutes	Write-your-own blessing	Bible; paper; pens
15 minutes	What's the word?	Cards with suggestions for instructions on them, together with prohibited words
10 minutes	Praying with the Bible	Writing materials; books of prayers

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR FORGIVENESS

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: the official who refused to forgive	—
15 minutes	Printing keys	Prepared foam key-shaped printing blocks; paint; rollers, thin sponges or brushes; paper
20 minutes	Weaving	Frames for weaving; string; strips of fabric and/or wool; hole punch or other method of making holes
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
15 minutes	Splatter painting	Very large sheets of paper; paint; brushes or plant spray bottles; paper shapes of crosses, keys, chains (if desired); polythene sheet
15 minutes	Decorating cross for display	Large cross made from boxes; paint; brushes
15 minutes	It ain't heavy	Bag or suitcase packed with a number of items
10 minutes	Forgive-o-matic	A washing machine front made from card with a door that opens; two white T-shirts; felt-tipped pens

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
20 minutes	Story: Jesus on the cross	—
15 minutes	Decorating wooden crosses	Wooden crosses; acrylic paint; small brushes
10 minutes	Paper chains	Gummed paper chain strips
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
15 minutes	Splatter painting	Very large sheets of paper, paint, brushes or plant spray bottles; paper shapes of crosses, keys, chains (if desired); polythene sheet
20 minutes	Cross-stitch tapestry	Tapestry canvas; tapestry or darning needles with large eyes; scissors; wool
15 minutes	Chocolate pots	Chocolate money or just chocolate; playing cards; IOU slips
5 minutes	Paper chain prayers	Paper chain from earlier activity

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR TRANSFIGURATION

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
15 minutes	Story: the transfiguration	—
20 minutes	Butterflies display	Garden netting; card shapes for caterpillars, butterflies and pupae; paint or collage materials and glue; stapler; strips of green fabric; crêpe and tissue paper
15 minutes	Photo-sensitive paper	Photo-sensitive paper; objects; bowl of water; timer
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
15 minutes	Who am I?	Cards showing names and descriptions of well-known characters from books, films or TV programmes.
15 minutes	Transforming mirrors	Mirrors; acrylic paint; brushes; glitter glue (optional); small stickers
5 minutes	Seeing things in a new light	Ultraviolet light; banknotes
5 minutes	Story reprise	—
10 minutes	Optical illusion prayers	A selection of optical illusion pictures

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
20 minutes	Story: the transfiguration	—
15 minutes	Whose feet?	Curtain or screen
20 minutes	Transforming mirrors	Mirrors; acrylic paint; brushes; glitter glue and so on; small stickers
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; bread; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Prisms	Prisms; torches
20 minutes	Picture puzzles	Pictures of famous people; overlay card, cut into pieces and numbered
10 minutes	Who am I?	Cards showing names and descriptions of well-known characters from books, films or TV programmes.
10 minutes	Optical illusion prayers	Optical illusion pictures

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR JESUS' FRIENDS

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: Jesus chooses four fishermen	—
15 minutes	Fishing for people mobile	Fish shapes; foil; tissue paper; scissors; PVA glue; string; sticks or canes
15 minutes	Fish display	A large piece of black card or paper mounted on to a solid board; holographic paper cut into circles; PVA glue; squares of coloured paper from magazines; fishing net (optional)
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Story: Mary and Martha	—
10 minutes	Clay handprints	Clay; instructions for home baking; a surface for rolling; an old rolling pin
15 minutes	Handprint pictures	Your design marked out on large sheet of card; poster paint in trays; brushes or sponges; hand-washing equipment
15 minutes	Sock puppets	A pair of socks for each child; PVA glue; fabric and felt scraps; wool
10 minutes	Prayers: God loves...	Small pieces of coloured paper; pens; PVA glue; a background picture

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: Mary and Martha	—
20 minutes	Eating together (preparation)	Ingredients; hand-washing equipment; food preparation equipment
20 minutes	Hot-seating	Hats for each character (if desired)
20 minutes	Eating together (BREAK)	Food that the children have made; somewhere to sit as a group (picnic rugs?)
15 minutes	Blindfold obstacle course	Plenty of space; comfortable blindfolds; equipment to make an obstacle course, such as cones, a soft foldaway tunnel, hoops, chairs, and so on.
10 minutes	Story: Peter's vision	—
5 minutes	Ichthus	Prepared pieces of card
10 minutes	Prayers: God loves...	Small pieces of coloured paper; pens; PVA glue; a background picture

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR JESUS AND ME

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: I have called you by name	—
20 minutes	Gingerbread people	Gingerbread dough; baking parchment; baking trays; person-shaped cutters; small rolling pins; pencils; hand-washing facilities
20 minutes	Decorated mirrors	Small mirrors or plastic mirrored A4 sheets cut to size; strips of hardboard; emulsion paint; PVA glue; items to decorate frames, such as fake jewels, beads, painted pasta, and so on
10 minutes	BREAK	Cups; water; squash; biscuits; jugs
10 minutes	Name game	A bean bag
15 minutes	What's in a name?	A book of baby names; sturdy paper; brushes; poster paints
15 minutes	Activity figures	Thick card cut out in the shape of body parts; a hole punch; split-pin paper fasteners; drawing materials
10 minutes	Noisy prayers	—

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; fish badges and blanks
10 minutes	Story: Jeremiah and the potter	—
10 minutes	Categories	A list of categories
20 minutes	Self sculptures	Air-drying clay; plastic sheeting; some modelling implements if desired
10 minutes	BREAK	Water; squash; cups; biscuits; jugs
15 minutes	Three facts about myself	Paper and pencils; candle and matches (optional)
20 minutes	Decorated mirrors	Small mirrors, or plastic mirrored A4 sheets cut to size; strips of hardboard; emulsion paint; PVA glue; items to decorate frames, such as fake jewels, beads, painted pasta and so on
15 minutes	Silhouettes	Anglepoise lamp on a table; easel; large sheets of paper (black or white); pencil; scissors; large sheets of coloured card; PVA glue; drawing materials
10 minutes	Meditation	Mirrors

PROGRAMME PLANS FOR GOD WITH US

Although activities have been placed in suggested age bandings, they are interchangeable according to the ability of your group.

Plan 1 (children aged 3–8)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: Psalm 8	—
20 minutes	Local environment display	Garden netting; pre-cut card shapes for flora and fauna found in the churchyard or local environment; leaves; flowers; poster paint; brushes; stapler
15 minutes	Painted heart biscuits	Biscuit dough; red food colouring; round and heart-shaped pastry cutters; rolling pins; clean, floured surface; baking sheets; baking parchment; additional egg yolk; very clean, small paintbrush
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
10 minutes	Matchbox insects	Small clean pebbles; poster paint; brushes; PVA glue; paper, beads, wool, and so on
10 minutes	Decorated matchboxes	Small matchboxes; poster paint; brushes; glitter glue; wool
10 minutes	Leaf collage	Pressed leaves; paper; PVA glue
15 minutes	Story: Pentecost	Red and orange crêpe paper cut into streamers; a CD of joyful music; CD player
10 minutes	Hazelnuts prayers	Hazelnuts or something similar, magnifying glasses (optional)

Plan 2 (children aged 7–12)

TIME	ACTIVITY	MATERIALS
10 minutes	Registration	Pen; paper; registration forms; badges
10 minutes	Story: Pentecost	Red and orange crêpe paper cut into streamers; a CD of joyful music; CD player
15 minutes	Globe display	Prepared paper or fabric with the world roughly sketched on to it; heart-shaped stamps; shades of blue and green poster paint; paintbrushes
15 minutes	Painted heart biscuits	Biscuit dough; red food colouring; round and heart-shaped pastry cutters; rolling pins; clean, floured surface; baking sheets; baking parchment; additional egg yolk; very clean, small paintbrush
10 minutes	BREAK	Squash; biscuits; cups; jugs; water
15 minutes	Recognition	Electronic images (JPEGs) of well-known people; access to a computer; image-altering software
15 minutes	Consequences	Paper; pens or pencils
20 minutes	God's world mobile	Large card circles, each with a hole punched at one side; a collection of pictures and collage items; PVA glue; string; a frame made from sticks or garden canes
10 minutes	Hazelnuts prayers	Hazelnuts or something similar, magnifying glasses (optional)

REGISTRATION FORM

Child's details

Name:	Date of birth: / /
Address:	
Telephone:	
Details of any allergies:	
Other medical conditions/anything else we should be aware of:	
Name of doctor:	
Surgery:	Telephone:
Emergency contact details	
Home telephone number:	
Emergency telephone/mobile number:	
Any other relevant emergency contact details:	

PARENTAL CONSENT FORM

In the event of an emergency, we need your consent to administer First Aid to your child and, if necessary, take them to hospital for medical treatment. We have trained First Aiders among our helpers or can call on local First Aiders.

Occasionally, photographs of the children may be taken during workshops for one of the following purposes: (i) for our records; (ii) for children to use during workshops; (iii) for reporters from the local paper who sometimes visit to report on the workshops; (iv) for training for our helpers.

As we have no toilet facilities in the church building, children needing to use the toilet are accompanied to to use the toilet there. We also sometimes arrange for activities to take place in the churchyard, and we may want to take the children (properly supervised, with a ratio of two adults to every six children for younger children, and two adults to every eight children for older children) on a short walk in the nearby vicinity. We will notify you in advance if outside activities are planned.

I consent/do not consent to the above in respect of:

- First Aid
- Photographs for club records
- Photographs for workshop activities
- Photographs for the local press
- Supervised activity outside the church building

Delete as appropriate

Form completed by: _____

Relationship to child: _____

Signature: _____

Date: ____ / ____ / ____

